CLAIMS

1. – 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a feedback path having ~~an input and output terminal~~ a first node and a second node, the feedback path ~~including~~ comprising a current sensing portion and an analog-to-digital converter, wherein the analog-to-digital converter is adapted to process ~~for processing~~ voice signals;

a switch for coupling the ~~input and output terminal~~ first and second nodes of the feedback path in response to receiving a control signal, wherein lesser current flows through the analog-to-digital converter in the feedback path as a result of coupling the ~~input and output terminals~~ first and second nodes; and

a ringing generator for providing a ringing signal to a subscriber line in response to the control signal.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, further including circuitry for:

receiving at least a portion of the transmitted ringing signal from the subscriber line; and

delivering the portion of the received ringing signal to the ~~input terminal~~ first node of the feedback path.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the analog-to-digital converter of the feedback path converts the received ringing signal to a digital signal.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, further including ring-trip detection logic, wherein the ring-trip detection logic generates a ring-trip detection indication in response to the digital signal.

13-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

processing a signal received over a subscriber line by one or more components in a first path, the first path having a first node and a second node and a current sensing portion~~an input terminal and an output terminal~~;

receiving a control signal;

coupling the first node and the second node ~~input and the output terminal~~ of the first path in response to receiving the control signal such that lesser current flows through at least one of the components while the first node and the second node ~~input and output terminals~~ are coupled; and

providing a ringing signal to the subscriber line responsive to the control signal.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the first path is a voice path, and wherein processing the signal comprises processing a voice signal received over the subscriber line.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the first path is a loop supervision path, and wherein processing the signal comprises processing a DC signal received over the subscriber line.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for processing a signal received over a subscriber line by one or more components in a first path, the first path having a first node and a second node and a current sensing portion ~~an input terminal and an output terminal~~;

means for receiving a control signal;

means for coupling the first node and the second node ~~input and the output terminal~~ of the first path in response to receiving the control signal, wherein the coupling of the first node and the second node ~~input and output terminals~~ allows lesser current to flow through at least one of the components; and

means for providing a ringing signal to the subscriber line responsive to the control signal.

23. – 24. (Cancelled).